



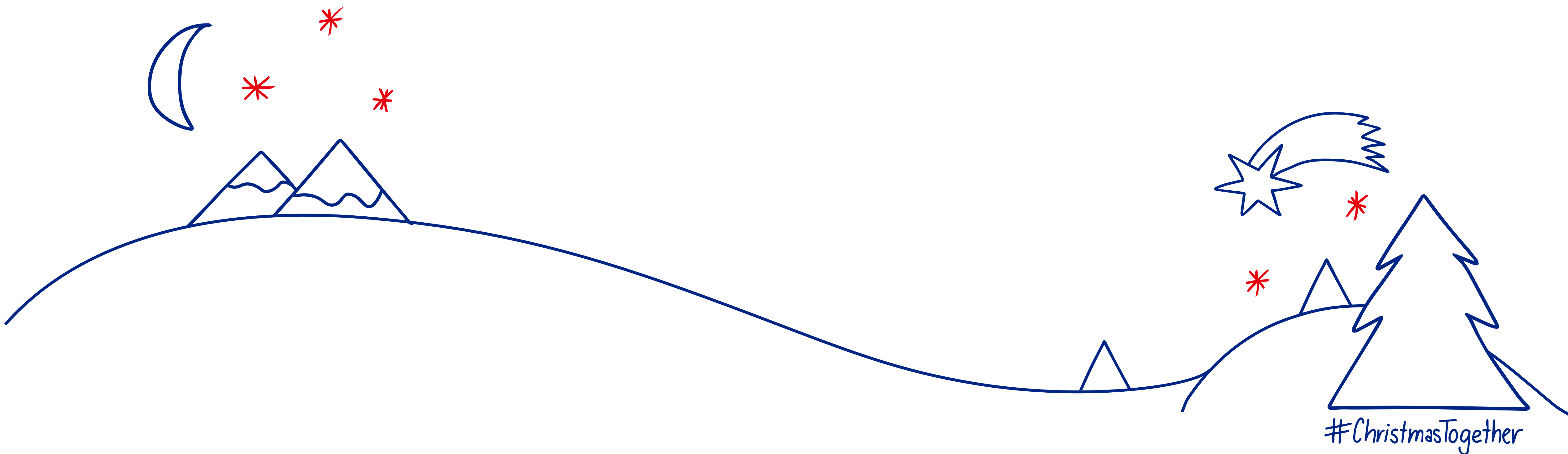
PARTNERS TOOLKIT

About Together:

Together is a coalition that **everyone is invited to join**, from community groups to some of the UK's best known organisations. Our aim is to **bring people together and bridge divides, to help build a kinder, closer and more connected society.**

In July, we partnered with the NHS to mark their birthday by bringing the nation together to say a great big "thank you" to everyone who helped during the first phase of the crisis. **Over 14 million people took part.**

Our new initiative, **Christmas Together**, aims to **rekindle that unique spirit**, and help people feel connected as we face a very different Christmas from usual, one where we know more people will be apart from our loved ones and we'll all still be under the cloud of the virus.





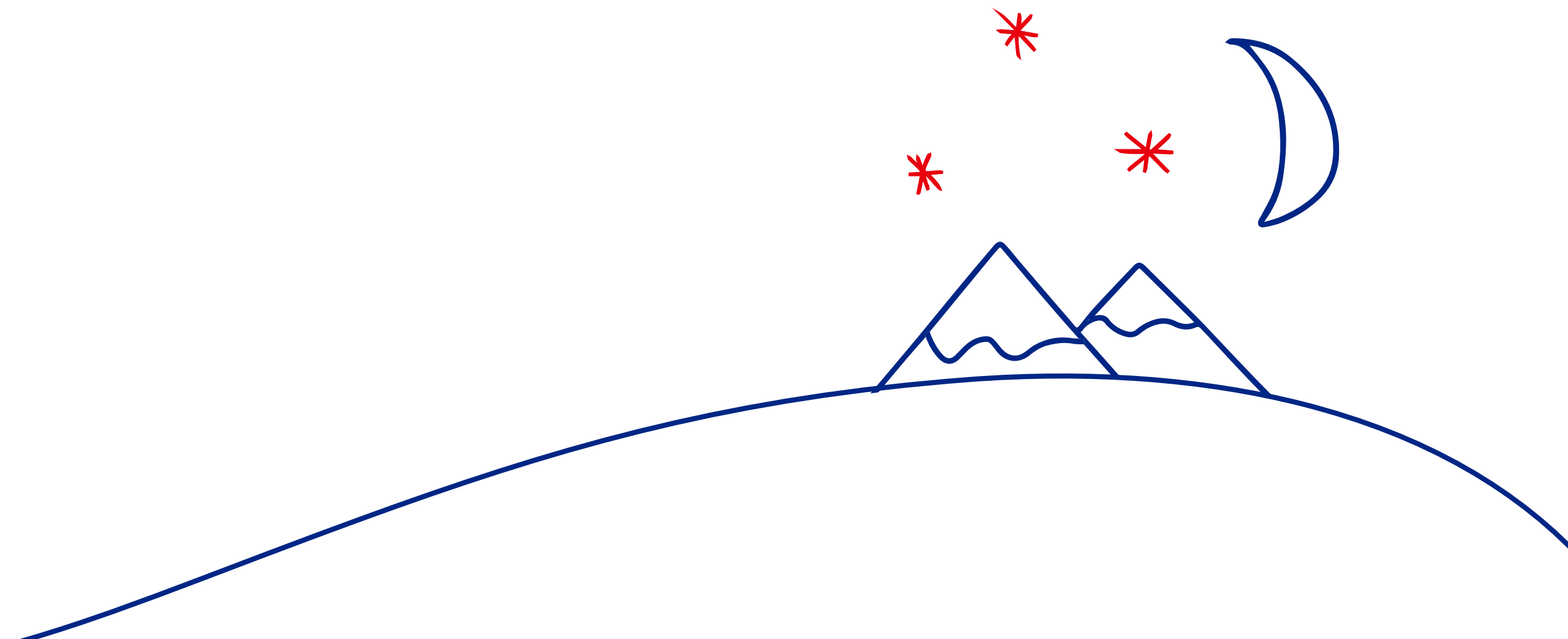
This Christmas will be like no other.

Fears of Covid and government restrictions may mean many of us will be cut off from friends and family, just when we need them the most.

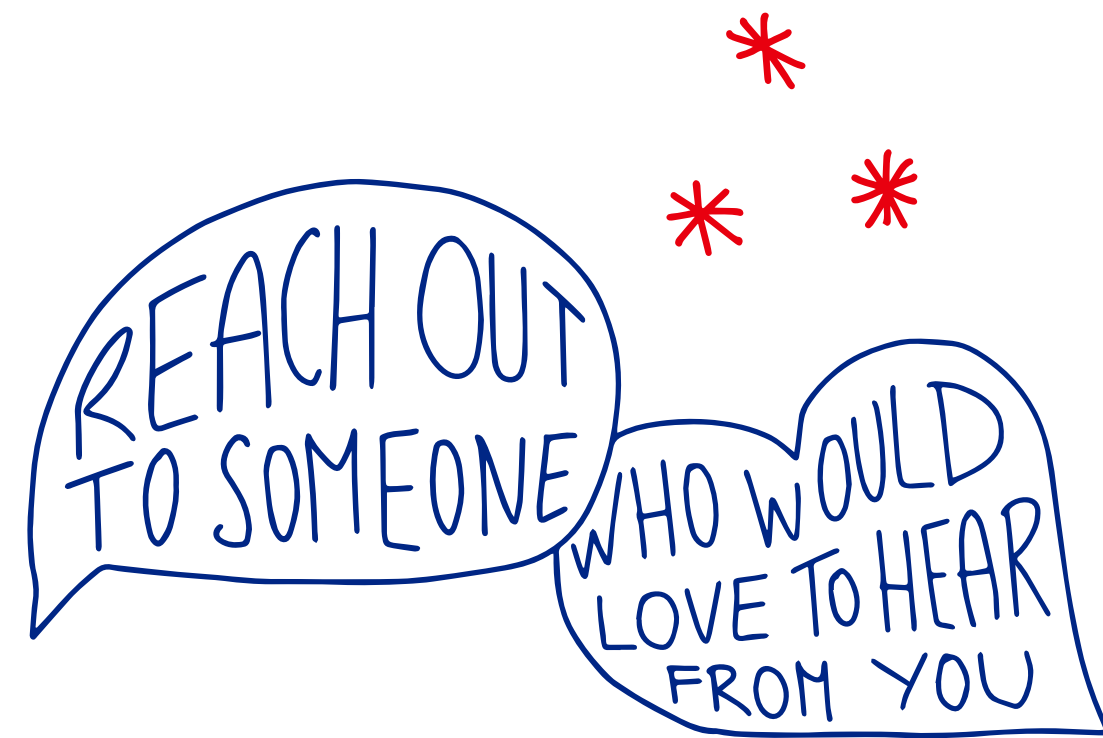
A vaccine is coming, and hope is on the horizon, but first we have to get through the darkest and coldest months to come. Many people are feeling vulnerable, lonely or anxious. **The Christmas spirit of connection and goodwill has never felt more important than it does right now.**

So let's make this Christmas an opportunity to **bring people together, rekindle the amazing spirit of looking after each other we all felt when the virus first took hold,** and make sure this midwinter is as bright as we can make it.

Let's share Christmas Together.



How you can help



The Together initiative is teaming up with the NHS, Royal Voluntary Service, and other voluntary organizations, to ask your help doing two things:

Reach out to someone who'd like to hear from you on Christmas Day. Make sure no one feels alone.

It might be a neighbour who lives alone or is shielding, a family member you haven't been in touch with for a while or even someone you have fallen out with.

Call them up, invite them to join a [Christmas game online](#) or [meet them for a walk in the park](#). It might just make their Christmas. Tell us your stories at [#ChristmasTogether](#)

Of course, it is important to do what we can to stop the spread of coronavirus even during the festive period. So, please make sure that you adhere to the current government guidance, which can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus> (different restrictions in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland may apply).

Sign up to support someone as an NHS Volunteer Responder.

Could you provide help and comfort to a stranger too? The NHS Volunteer Responder programme is [recruiting new volunteers across England willing to offer support to someone who needs it this Christmas and during the coming months](#). You could pop round with their essential shopping - or festive treats - and have a door-step natter (you'll be matched to someone nearby), or you could have a friendly chat over the phone.

Go to nhsvolunteerresponders.org.uk/ChristmasTogether to sign up as volunteer*

Giving up an hour a week could make a big difference to somebody. Don't worry if you don't get a call straight away, because jobs are matched according to the need local to you. Being ready to help is what really matters.

If you are someone who would like a friendly call or needs a helping hand with their shopping just call [0808 196 3646](tel:08081963646) (8am-8pm, 7 days a week)

*This service is England specific. To find a broad range of volunteering opportunities from across the UK, support causes you care about and to connect with others visit doit.life/christmastgether. Doit.life is available to people across the home nations. Alternatively, get in touch with thesilverline.org.uk if you would welcome a call

How partners and supporters can help

Here are some suggested posts & accompanying visuals to use

Twitter



#ChristmasTogether is launching on Monday 30th November, and we'd like as many people as possible to help us spread the word.

1. We'd really appreciate it if you **passed this briefing on to your networks and supporters**. We want as many people as we can to reach out this Christmas, and tell us about their experiences using the **#ChristmasTogether**

2. Please **show your support on your social channels during launch week**. Here are some suggested posts to use:

Handles:

@togethercoalit @royalvolservice

This Christmas will be challenging for us all, but let's make sure that no-one spends it alone. Help everyone share **#ChristmasTogether** by reaching out to someone who'd love to hear from you. Find out more at together.org.uk/ChristmasTogether

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One in five of us worry we won't see anyone over Christmas. But we can make sure nobody has to be alone. Let's share **#ChristmasTogether** by reaching out to someone who'd love to hear from you. Find out more at together.org.uk/ChristmasTogether

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Facebook

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Instagram

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Support The Great Winter Get Together, an initiative of The Jo Cox Foundation, which runs from 14th December - 18 January, urging everyone to face loneliness together: one connection at a time. Find out more at www.greatgettogether.org

Assets



All assets available for download [here](#).

